



## Natrona County Parks Department

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### Minutes

#### Natrona County Parks Board

August 21, 2013

The Natrona County Parks Board met in the Roads, Bridges & Parks Dept office. Members in attendance were Stuart Hill, Jim Miller, Jennifer Frontiero and Roy Buck. Absent were Brian Stack, Nicole Emery and Steph Connolly. Also attending were Dick O'Hearn and Glenna Nash from the Parks Department and Bruce Lamberson from Mountain Sports.

Vice Chairman Stuart Hill called the meeting to order. Roy motioned to approve the minutes from the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, Jen seconded, motion carried.

Stuart asked Dick where we stand on the Reed reroutes. Dick said the rug was pulled out just a week before the WCC crew arrived, due to issues with Round The Hill Road and public parking area that Reed would like vacated. Currently everything is on hold; the Resolution, switchbacks, easements, etc. Mr. Reed would prefer to sell his property to the County, similar to the Rauchfuss purchase agreement. Bruce Lamberson said that Mr. Reed has long wanted to vacate the road. Bruce thinks the trail already has legal easements through the subdivision and any new switchbacks would've been a mistake. He encouraged the Board not to give up that beautiful portion of the Bridle Trail.

Stuart expressed concern after reading the 6-18-13 Minutes re Trailer #146 where a 5' setback was approved. Prior thereto, Dick met with Jason Gutierrez and other staff at Development and Zoning Depts. who agreed it complied with their respective regulations. Stuart thought it disagreed however, with our MOU with BOR. Dick said our zoning ordinance is a clear set of rules applicable to all trailer parks in Natrona County. Stuart said the Lake Subcommittee will take up this issue.

### Other Business:

- Bruce Lamberson advocated for a Casper Mountain Trails Master Plan. He said that trail use on the mountain is haphazard with horseback, MTB and motorized vehicle use. He attended the WY Trails Summit and learned the City is developing trails at Hogadon after spending \$76,000 for its Master Plan. Bruce feels that the work we've done on the Bridle Trail is substandard, unsafe and short-lived and that we should seek help from the pros. He recommended Tim Young from Wyoming Pathways as a resource and to help identify grant money available from the State. Stuart said that the first thing to do is draft an RFP. Bruce said the City's RFP was weak, too broad and poorly written. He brought some samples for the Board to look at and advised them to devote appropriate time developing an effective RFP. Space is not an issue and feels we should not react to every landowner's concerns.

Roy said the biggest issue is if we focus only on mountain bikes, then other users will feel left out. Jen suggested having all user groups involved. Dick reminded the Board to include snowshoers. Roy said it's hard to work with all groups, private landowners and the State. Bruce said we shouldn't accept "no" as an answer and to work out solutions, even it takes time. Roy said if the County buys from one [i.e. Rauchfuss purchase agreement] we should buy from all affected landowners. Bruce reiterated that resources have been squandered because we haven't had a good plan and that we should chart a course for the next three summers. Stuart thanked Bruce and said that we do need to get everyone together and focus on a plan. Dick said the \$30,000 budgeted for a master plan is more for campsites, not necessarily for a trail system; however, the Consultant will be directed to incorporate *all* areas and to use some campsite templates from the Lake RMP/EA.

### **Mountain Update:**

- Rotary Park — Rotary hired a WCC crew to build a trail from the new bridge to proposed observation decks, extending it to the grassy knoll above The Falls. An Eagle Scout is supervising a wood post and cable 'handrail' project that is ongoing.
- Bridle Trail signage — Dick is still waiting on the proof from Aaker Signs. There is now a printable Bridle Trail map available on our website that will form the background of each "YOU ARE HERE" sign. Dick is also looking into tri-fold brochures similar to those for the Nordic trails. Stuart thinks we will also need to have the 911 locates as well.
- WCC hitch — Stuart asked if we have them scheduled for next year. Jim said we should. Dick said they start scheduling in November and will initiate reserving another crew. Stuart said we may need the master plan in place first. If not, Dick thinks a crew could work on the existing MTB trails or elsewhere on the Bridle Trail. Jim suggested Ponderosa Park as an option.
- Beartrap Festival follow-up — Attendance was down this year but several music enthusiasts liked the lineup. Next year is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and they're already negotiating with 'headliners'. The concrete pad may need to be enlarged to accommodate a semitrailer foldout stage. We are also looking into reseeding the meadow with heartier grasses that withstand foot traffic. Jim asked if the fee we charge covers our cost. Dick said no but that he will review the contract next year and request additional funds.

### **Lake Update:**

- Okie Beach Improvements — The BOR is circulating their Category Exclusion Checklist. CEPI is preparing Bidding Documents for a grading/paving package that'll be bid this fall. Jim would like to see signage for the day-use areas.
- Cabin #68 — Lessee requests to demolish his boat house and rebuild a 24' x 30' dock. Stuart expressed concern about his proposed retaining wall and materials. Dick confirmed the builder will not use RR ties. Stuart motioned to approve the request and specified an April 15, 2014 completion date. Jen seconded, motion carried. Dick said the same owner is requesting to build a 2-level deck and recommends approval. Jim questioned the type of building materials. Dick said the materials will be listed in the building permit. Jen motioned to approve, Jim seconded, motion carried.

- Cabin #57 — Lessee requests to replace a steep ramp at his dock access with additional steps and a composite deck. Dick said the existing ramp is steeper than an ADA ramp (1:12). Jen motioned to approve, Jim seconded, motion carried.
- Marina Trailer #1 — Marina Lessee requests to replace his deck with the same configuration. Dick is unaware of lot lines for those spaces. Stuart is concerned with the side deck. Dick recommends they comply with the minimum 5' setback from the pop-out portion. Jen motioned to approve with a 5' setback, Roy seconded, motion carried.
- Cabin #54 — Lessee requests to demo his existing dock and build a new one. His is the dock adjacent Mr. Shickich. He will not replace his boat lift which will give Mr. Shickich more room on W side. Dick recommends approval. Roy motioned to approve the dock with an April 15, 2014 completion date, Jim seconded, motion carried. The same owner is requesting to build a 2<sup>nd</sup> story on his cabin with deck and enlarge the 1<sup>st</sup> floor deck. Stuart said that BOR will need to approve this request. Dick will follow up with them. Jen motioned to approve contingent on BOR approval, Jim seconded, motion carried.
- Lakeshore Drive Landscaping — Dick reported this project is complete. The plants were purchased out of last years' budget. Materials and installation were \$7,205 and \$11,740.
- Lakeshore Drive Pathway grant — Dick applied for an 80/20 TAP grant to build a pathway along Lakeshore Drive to connect the Estates with Fremont Canyon. He envisions most of the pathway will be detached from the Lakeshore Dr. Stuart said the path will be safer by separating pedestrians from the roadway. Roy encouraged sign continuity throughout the County's trail systems.

#### **Board Comments:**

- Stuart said the owner of Cabin #26 built a 2-story "shed" which exceed 120 SF, without a permit. He said they also removed a tree and camp trailer to make room for this "bunkhouse" which holds 30-40 people.
- Stuart said on July 5<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Cercy (Cabin #58) pumped his failed septic tank into a ditch and was later cited by the Health Dept and Sheriff. Stuart would like to see his Lease pulled. Jen agrees, especially after numerous infractions. A new tank has been delivered but there is no access for a pump truck. Dick agrees that this may constitute a breach of his Lease and will follow up with Co Attorney on this process.
- Dick said the intersection of Pelican Ridge and Rocky Shore washed out after recent heavy rains. He learned that the BOR won't allow Lake funds to be spent in Cabin area. Stuart said the Cabin Association feels that the roads should be covered in the MOU. Dick will follow up with the BOR for their interpretation.

#### **Next meeting date:**

- The next meeting will be October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 am. In the meantime, Subcommittees will try to meet. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.